

# "Utah's Job Connection"

Employment / Employer News - Central Region

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## *Director's Message* by - Stephen D. Maas



### *Employers Can Assist Educators By Asking For School Records*

Want to have a positive impact on our K-12 educational system without increasing taxes or passing a new law? Begin asking first time workers, with no work record, to supply a high school transcript as part of their job application!

In a brainstorming session, by the Utah Central Region Council on Workforce Services, this suggestion was put forward and garnered some genuine excitement. Educators have a very tough job in today's culture. It is difficult to keep students motivated, especially those who are not college bound. It is a reality that 75% of today's youngsters will not go on to college, and drop-out rates are alarming. Yet at some point, these first time applicants will be entering the workforce.

As employers, you are experiencing difficulty in finding young people who are motivated to excel and ready to make a commitment to the work place. How can you become part of the solution to this problem and conduct business at the same time?

Employers in Central Utah can send a strong message, to our youth and professional educators, through the recruitment process. By doing so, we

demonstrate our support for increased academic achievement and school attendance. "By utilizing school records in the hiring process, we send a clear message to our community that academic achievement counts!" states Council Chair Elyce Mouskondis of Nicholas & Co.

What to look for on the transcript? Just as academic standards, assessments, and accountability are strong incentives for students to learn, more employer attention to school attendance, extra curricular activities, course work, and performance can spur students to take school seriously.

What are the legal issues in asking for school records? The National Alliance for Business have researched and promoted this concept as a way to positively affect our schools. They have issued a legal opinion that finds that asking for school records is absolutely legal as long as school records are not the only criteria used in making a hiring decision. However, utilizing school records in the hiring process could have a major impact on our educational system.

Contact your local school superintendent and discuss how you can partner in this endeavor. It may be one of those simple solutions that could pay enormous dividends.

The National Alliance of Business has published a guide on this subject: **"Hiring Smart: An Employer's Guide to Using School Records."** Call the National Alliance of Business: 1-800-787-2848 for a copy.



## ***Arthur E. Benjamin Selected as Central Region Council Chair***

***By - Jeri Jackson***

Arthur Benjamin's sense of dedication and commitment to make a difference is unparalleled, and because of his sincerity and steadfastness, his appointment to the Council was ratified. He has been an asset to the Regional Council since he first came on board. Mr. Benjamin has been known to cancel or postpone meetings to enable him to fly back into town to attend a Council meeting and then fly back out to conclude other business.

Mr. Benjamin is the president of DataMark, a direct mailing company. Past experience includes 12 years in proprietary school marketing operations, executive positions with Group W, CBS Admarketing, Connecticut Public Broadcasting CPI (a group of four proprietary schools), and Advantage Media and Marketing. He has overseen numerous public relation campaigns and designed and published a regional magazine. The old adage, "If you want something done, ask a busy person" certainly holds true in Mr. Benjamin's case.

He is a graduate of Clark University, the Burklyn Business School, and the Career College Association leadership conference. Mr. Benjamin is a member of Rotary International, the Hartford

Club, and currently serves on the boards of the Pasadena POPS Orchestra and Franklin Templeton Bank. Additionally, for numerous years he was the fund-raising chairperson for The Summit School in New York and actively raises funds for the Marine Fostig School in California and New Tymes School in Salt Lake City (K-12 schools for the learning disabled). Mr. Benjamin has placed education high on his list of priorities.

Mr. Benjamin, being a small business owner, brings a wealth of experience in that arena as well as in marketing, public relations, leadership, and issues relating to educating our youth.

The Council is pleased to welcome Arthur Benjamin as Chair for 1999-2000.

## ***Development Workshops For Small Businesses***

***By - Sherrill Chapman***

The West Valley, Taylorsville, and Kearns Chamber of Commerce, along with the Department of Workforce Services, is hosting a series of workshops for small business owners and managers at no cost to employers. The focus of the workshops is to offer information that will contribute to the success of small businesses in the Salt Lake area. Previous topics include:

- Buy Sell Agreements
- Business Succession Planning
- How to Write a Business Plan
- How to Collect on Debt
- How to Generate Sales
- Managing Your Computer Systems
- Small Business Retirement Plans

All workshops are being held at the Department of Workforce Services at the South County E.C. located on 5735 S. Redwood Rd. If you have a topic you

would like to have presented or would like to attend a workshop, please call the chamber office at 969-8755.



## ***eBay/Remedy recruitment***

Remedy Staffing Services would like to extend thanks and appreciation to the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) staff for their efforts and assistance during our recent eBay recruiting activities. From John Williams' presence with us in eBay's exploratory meetings with the Department of Community and Economic Development, to the immediate support and outstanding customer service we received from the DWS staff, we say "Thank you!"

DWS staff fielded virtually hundreds of calls and sent out hundreds of cards to potential candidates. The Metro Employment Center staff adjusted their busy schedules to arrange a short notice recruiting fair. They opened their doors to us on a Saturday, with full use of their facility, and the staff was on hand for assistance. Their flexibility and hard work was greatly appreciated.

The South County Employment Center had a record-breaking attendance day on the following Tuesday, when more than 500 people arrived for the eBay recruiting fair. The staff was a tremendous help in setting up candidates for orientation, in addition to assisting the Remedy staff during the evaluation process. Our appreciation goes out to the hard working staff that gave us immediate attention and assistance during what was a busy, normal workday for them.

Thanks to the hard work and tremendous efforts of DWS, the Remedy Staffing/eBay recruiting fairs were a

huge success. Their facilities are terrific and their customer service is outstanding.

## Right on "Target"



Target, an upscale, discount retailer, will be having a Grand Opening of their new store in West Jordan located at 6748 S. Redwood Rd, on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. The new store manager is Kriscelle Tennesen, who has been with Target for over five years and brings a great amount of expertise. Laura Dietzenback, who has been with Target for four years is the Human Resources Manager.

The West Jordan Target will be the 7<sup>th</sup> Target store in Utah where there are currently six Super Target stores in the State. Store hours will be 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week.

Target is currently partnering with the Department of Workforce Services to meet their hiring efforts. Job Fairs were held in May and June at the South County Employment Center in an effort to recruit 180 team members for this new store.

Target and the Dayton Hudson family of companies have given over one million dollars back to the communities that they serve. They give to the arts, education, and to domestic violence prevention to help strengthen and enrich family life.

The Target team is very excited to be part of the West Jordan community and looks forward to partnering with the area schools and businesses.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Business to Business Expo Huge Success

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, Business to Business Expo was held March 31<sup>st</sup>, April 1<sup>st</sup>, and April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Salt Palace. This three day event provided an excellent opportunity for the 330 employers who set up booths to market their services.

Over 5,224 attended opening night and over 21,008 people attended the 3-day event. It was estimated this years attendance increased by over 700 and the number of participating exhibitors went from 240 last year to 330 booths this year.



## Celebrate Success

By - Kathy Orr

The Department of Workforce Services, Metro Employment Center, held their 1<sup>st</sup> "Celebrate Success" brunch on March 26<sup>th</sup> to recognize the sustained employment of six graduates of the six-phase workshop series offered in the Central Region.

Five of these women were long-term TANF customers. One is now a deputy court clerk with the Utah Court of Appeals, one is an intake worker with Utah Legal Services, one is an office technician with the State's Division of Purchasing, one is a secretary at West High, another one is an account representative with Nicholas &

Company, and one is a production worker with CP Industries, and will be attending night school on a carpentry pre-apprenticeship grant beginning in May. Three of the ladies participated in W.E.A.T. internships after completing the six-phase workshop series.

Over 40 employers, Regional Council members, agency staff, and DWS service providers attended the presentation along with a Deseret News reporter.

The six graduates, who were given plaques and gifts, credited the workshops for boosting their self-esteem and for helping match them with the jobs, W.E.A.T. sites, and programs that are moving them to self-sufficiency.

## WANTED: More Job Fairs

The Department of Workforce Services hosted a number of job fairs this past quarter at local Employment Centers (E.C.'s):

- On March 11<sup>th</sup> the Tooele E.C. hosted a general job fair for 16 employers and 400 job seekers. Approximately 14 people were hired as a result.
- On March 24<sup>th</sup> the Metro E.C. hosted a general job fair for 23 employers and 900 job seekers.
- On April 13<sup>th</sup>, the Midvale E.C. hosted a clerical job fair for 16 employers and 463 applicants. Employers were thrilled with the turnout of job seekers and the helpfulness of the Midvale staff.
- On May 13<sup>th</sup> the Downtown E.C. hosted a general job fair for 22 employers and 725 job seekers. The success story of the day was from five good friends who went to the job fair in which all five young women were hired that day with Teltrust.

All job fairs were received well by both employer and job seeker with such responses as "Have more" and "Helpful staff".

## *Upcoming Events*

### JULY

- 14<sup>th</sup>** - TEC Meeting - Tooele E.C.  
12:00 p.m.
- 15<sup>th</sup>** - Customer Service Job Fair -  
S. County E.C. 3-7 p.m.
- 28<sup>st</sup>** - General Job Fair - Tooele E.C.  
3-7 p.m.

### AUGUST

- 4<sup>th</sup>** - SLEC Meeting - Admin. So.-  
1385 S. State, 7:30 a.m.
- 6-7<sup>th</sup>** - Care Fair '99 - Horizonte

Employer Academies are free informational meetings hosted by the Department of Workforce Services. Meetings are held at our Employment Centers, 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

SLEC Seminars are luncheon presentations held quarterly. The cost is \$25/per person. Topics that have been discussed at these presentations include the following:

Labor Law Updates, Hiring Rights, Employer Handbooks, Recruitment, Resources, Retaining Employees, etc. (Pre-registration is required.)

For location and/or time on the above job fairs, information about the Salt Lake Employer Committee (SLEC), other events, or to register for an upcoming seminar, please contact the Employer Services Unit at (801) 468-0174, or your local Employer Relations Representative.

### Important Phone Numbers

Child Care Outreach:	801-526-4342
Contributions:	801-526-9235
DWS Administration:	801-526-9675
Job Order Fax Line:	801-468-0070
Job Order Phone Line:	801-468-0097
Labor Market Info:	801-526-9340
New Hire Reporting:	801-526-4361
Rapid Response:	801-526-4312
UI Benefit/Tax Info.:	800-222-2857
DOL Wage/Hour Div.:	801-524-5706
Utah Labor Commission	801-530-6801
Workforce Council:	801-468-0095
WOTC Tax Credit:	801-526-9484

<http://www.dws.state.ut.us>

### Employer Relations Reps.:

Laureen Royle	801-567-3940
Sherrill Chapman	801-269-4762
Sarah Brenna	801-536-7173
Trina Griffith	435-833-7327
Jody Davis	801-468-0020
(OJT, E-1, WEAT)	
Karen Gardner	801-468-0260
(OJT, WEAT)	

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